

Zero-Emission and Plug-In Hybrid Light-Duty Vehicle (Clean Vehicle) Rebate Project Applicant Workshop

Stakeholder Questions and Air Resources Board (ARB) Staff Responses

On October 1, 2009, ARB held a Clean Vehicle Rebate Project Applicant Workshop to answer questions regarding the FY 2009-10 Clean Vehicle Rebate Project Grant Proposal Solicitation (solicitation). This document provides ARB responses to stakeholder questions at the workshop and received via e-mail before 5 p.m. on September 30, 2009.

Vehicle Activity Reporting

Q: Will the grantee be expected to provide ARB with a mechanism for receiving annual reports from purchasers/lessees of non-commercial zero-emission vehicles (ZEV) and plug-in hybrid-electric vehicles (PHEV)?

A: At this time, there are no annual reporting requirements for light-duty ZEVs, PHEVs, neighborhood electric vehicles (NEV), or zero-emission motorcycles (ZEM). Therefore, the grantee will not be required to provide ARB with a mechanism for receiving reports from purchasers of these vehicles. However, ARB reserves the right to request vehicle usage information, for all other eligible vehicle types, at any time within the three years after the rebate is issued. ARB will coordinate with the grantee to determine the most cost-effective way of retrieving this information. There is an annual reporting requirement for zero-emission commercial medium- and heavy-duty vehicles. The grantee will be required to provide ARB a mechanism for receiving these reports for three years.

Q: Does the annual reporting requirement for zero-emission commercial vehicles apply to light-duty zero-emission vehicles purchased by businesses?

A: No, annual reporting is only required for zero-emission commercial medium- and heavy-duty vehicles. For the purposes of this project, medium- and heavy-duty vehicles are those with a 10,000 to 30,000 pounds gross vehicle weight rating. These vehicles are eligible for up to a \$20,000 rebate.

Equipment Operation in California

Q: Beyond the requirement of being based in California or having a California-based affiliate, will vehicle purchasers/lessees be required to operate the majority of vehicle miles within California?

A: The draft Implementation Manual does not currently address vehicle operation within California. ARB will work with the grantee to finalize the Implementation Manual to include operation in California requirements for commercial ZEVs. Purchasers of commercial ZEVs will be required to commit to operate the vehicle 100 percent within

California for at least three years after the rebate date. Vehicles registered in a county that borders another state may be granted permission to accrue up to 25 percent of their mileage each year for the three year reporting period outside of California if requested and justified on the rebate request form. ARB will work with the grantee to determine if a California operational requirement is necessary for light-duty ZEVs, PHEVs, NEVs, or ZEMs.

Vehicle Rebate Amounts

Q: Please explain the Maximum Project Funding in Table 2 on page 8 of the Draft Implementation Manual.

A: The “Maximum Project Funding” is essentially funding limits for the types of vehicles eligible for rebates. If the grantee uses the maximum 10 percent allowed for project administration, these funding limits would be adjusted by 10 percent. For example, the funding limit for zero-emission commercial vehicles is \$2.4 million. If the grantee uses the maximum administrative costs for the project, zero-emission commercial vehicles would have an adjusted funding target of \$2.16 million.

Administrative Funding

Q: Will ARB withhold 10 percent of each scheduled disbursement of administrative funding identified on page 9 of solicitation?

A: No, ARB will withhold 10 percent of the total administrative funding identified in the grant until the grantee has completed their final tasks identified in the solicitation and Implementation Manual. ARB will not withhold 10 percent from each scheduled disbursement.

Outreach

Q: What extent of outreach does ARB expect from the grantee?

A: ARB has not defined the scope and extent of the statewide outreach and is requesting the grantee provide a proposal for statewide outreach as part of their Project Implementation Plan.

Q: Is the \$410,000 in administrative funding the total for outreach?

The maximum administrative funding that ARB will provide for this project is \$410,000, which may be used to cover the cost of administering and implementing the Clean Vehicle Rebate Project, including outreach among other items. Applicants may choose to commit additional services meeting the definition of in-kind match; these commitments may provide additional points as identified in the scoring criteria of the solicitation.